

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
INITIAL POLLUTION REPORT**

DATE: 7/17/03

SUBJECT: Alabama Electric Oil Spill

FROM: John Nolen, OSC
USEPA Region 4

TO: S. Hitchcock, EPA
ADEM
Region 4, RRC

I. BACKGROUND

FPN#:	N/A
SITE ID:	Z400
PROJECT CEILING:	N/A
LEAD AGENCY:	EPA, Region 4, ERRB 61 Forsyth Street, SW Atlanta, Georgia 30303
NPL:	No
FUNDING:	OPA
LEAD OSC:	Dean Ullock

II SITUATION

Date of Notification:	17 July 2003
Date Action Started:	17 July 2003
Pollutant:	Mineral Oil
Quantity Discharged:	7,000 gallons
Source Identification:	Transformer

III ACTIONS TAKEN

On July 17, 2003 telephone duty received NRC Report #651044 pertaining to a discharge of non pcb mineral oil at the Alabama Electric Cooperative Power Plant in Gantt, Covington County, Alabama. A transformer, containing 11,000 gallons of mineral oil, was struck and ignited by lightning causing the discharge. Approximately 4,000 gallons of oil remained in the transformer. The remaining 7,000 gallons breached containment and spilled onto the ground surface. A portion of the oil traveled down a surface water drainage ditch and entered the Coneuh River. A contractor was hired to conduct cleanup actions. OSC Dean Ullock was dispatched to the scene to assist with containment and recovery operations. Upon arrival, OSC Ullock and facility personnel reconned the entire spill pathway. Most of the oil was captured in

the drainage ditch with booms and dams deployed by the facility personnel. An estimated 500 to 1,000 gallons entered the Coneuh River. A light to medium sheen was observed on the surface of the river at the facility outfall and 3 miles down river, behind the Point A substation dam. Booms and absorbent materials were deployed.

IV FUTURE ACTIONS

OSC Ullock will continue to monitor the oil recovery operations. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) Land Division will oversee the long term soil remediation efforts.

V ESTIMATED COSTS

EPA	\$500
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